

VFW KANSAS CITY

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my constituents in the Fifth District of Missouri and citizens around the country to honor the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Kansas City, home of the Veterans of Foreign Wars' National Headquarters, is proud to be the host site for the 100th Convention of this American Institution. I would like to recognize the VFW, an organization dedicated to 100 years of this nation's men and women who have sustained our country's freedom through personal sacrifice.

In 1899 veterans from the Spanish American War united and became the voice of the veteran. Veterans who fought side by side on the battlefield became the advocates for a strong national defense and supporters for veterans and their rights. The last century has witnessed the continual evolution of this organization as it paralleled the growth of our country.

Every decade had presented a different social and economic America. Every conflict has been fought with a new generation of military fortified with the latest technology and skills. The challenge for this organization has been to understand and provide for the emotional and social needs of every generation of veterans. They have met these challenges by serving as lobbyists, advisors, educators, and organizers of beneficial programs for the enlisted and retired. They are active contributors to their community, champions of today's youth, and always vigilant in recognizing and remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting the VFW's and all veterans' contributions during both war and peace.

**THE FORD CENTER AND BETHEL
A.M.E. CHURCH: MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN THE ASBURY PARK
COMMUNITY**

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, July 10, 1999, the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Asbury Park, NJ, dedicated the Bethel Ford Center and Community Development Corporation. The successful completion of the major improvements at the center is a testimony to the long-standing commitment of both the Bethel AME Church, and of the two great community leaders for whom it is named, Mr. and Mrs. William Benjamin Ford.

The Ford Center is a community outreach program serving Asbury Park and surrounding communities. Its mission includes decreasing hunger, providing clothing and offering education and training to improve marketable skills. Dedicated volunteers and professional staff help to provide a food pantry, a clothes closet, computer training, academic remediation, and advise on employability and life skills.

Mr. William Benjamin Ford and Mrs. Willie Mae Taylor Ford, native of Florida, moved to the Jersey Shore in the early 1930s. The Fords were pillars in Bethel AME Church and throughout the community for more than 25 years. Mr. Ford served as Pastor Steward, Class Leader and member of the Lay Organization for many years. He was an employee of the Asbury Park Press for 50 years. Mrs. Ford served Bethel as a Stewardess, Trustee, Missionary, Class Leader, member of the Gospel Chorus and Senior Choir. She operated the Modernistic Beauty Shop in Asbury Park for over 25 years.

The Fords' dedication to serving Bethel lasted throughout their lives, and it still lives through their son, Mr. Greeley Ford. In 1998, Mr. Greeley Ford, who attended Bethel Church as a child and young adult, deeded the property on Atkins Avenue that had been the Modernistic Beauty Shop.

Incorporated in 1879, Bethel Church was one of the first churches in Asbury Park. According to the tradition related by the Church's founders, the organization took place in 1869 under the direction of the Rev. John Cornish. The group had been holding services in a tent at what is now known as the 900 block of Lake Avenue when Mr. James A. Bradley, founder of Asbury Park, proposed a permanent church home and deeded the land, at the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Main Street, in 1893. The congregation worshipped at this site until 1949. The property was sold to a car dealership, who soon demolished the landmark building. The new church home located at the corner of Langford Street and Cookman Avenue, was the former Sons of Israel Synagogue, also a landmark since 1883. Services were held here for the first time on March 6, 1949. The church was renovated in 1954 and again in 1990, while improvements have been made and new amenities have consistently been added throughout the years. In March 1997, the present minister, the Rev. John C. Justice, was appointed to Bethel. Pastor Justice's leadership has seen a continued increase in the number of members of the Congregation and the Fellowship at Bethel.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with the members of Bethel AME Church and the entire Asbury Park community in welcoming the Ford Center and saluting all those who helped make it a reality.

**HONORING THE SAN ANTONIO
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL OF UPLAND,
CALIFORNIA ON ITS 75TH
ANNIVERSARY**

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to San Antonio Community Hospital of Upland, California which will be celebrating on August 14, 1999 its 75th year of providing comprehensive, quality health care. From its humble beginnings as a small community hospital in 1907, San Antonio has grown into a predominant health care leader in the western Inland Empire in Southern California.

Today, nearly 2,000 professional, technical and service personnel at their 332-bed facility

provide a wide array of medical services, while utilizing the very latest technologies. The 500 plus-member medical staff includes many of the region's leading physicians and specialists who make San Antonio an exceptional hospital. In addition, San Antonio nurses have earned a reputation as compassionate, responsive professionals who continue to meet strict educational and professional standards.

Over the years, San Antonio's logo of a growing plant has become a familiar mark in the community conveying everything the hospital represents. In the hospital's own words, the stalk and leaves express "a feeling of a living, growing organization, consistent with the life mending role the hospital plays. The sturdy central stem, symbolize the elements of the hospital's structure—Trustees, Medical Staff, and Employees. The complete symbol recalls the cooperative efforts needed to accomplish the hospital's primary goal of securing the patient's well being."

At a time when the nation's top concern is achieving quality health care, San Antonio Community Hospital is a shining beacon of excellence in patient care, services, and facilities that respond to consumer and physician needs.

I know my colleagues join me in honoring San Antonio Community Hospital on their 75th Anniversary and wish them many more years of continued success.

**FAREWELL TO CONGRESSMAN
GEORGE BROWN**

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, those of us who served with George Brown are saddened at his passing for we have lost a colleague and friend, a true gentleman who was always honest and thoughtful.

George Brown was a benevolent, yet intense and resolute, advocate for science; a true supporter and friend to the entire scientific community, and a determined fighter for the public good.

He always felt passionately that science could be the basis for progress. George was convinced that the scientific advancements nurtured by Congress would lead to a better world for everyone. And that was his goal for all those many years.

He was consistently dedicated to openness and educating others about science. He was always eager to learn, and to share, the latest perspectives of science and technology.

His commitment to science always rose above partisanship. I know that George shared my satisfaction that the Science Committee has long been considered one of the most bipartisan in Congress. This is a testament to the respect that everyone had for George Brown, and his determined belief that advancing our Nation's scientific research and development is a goal that is not bound by partisan politics.

And as we look up to see his portrait in the committee room, I am pleased that his vision and his legacy will live on among the committee.

I am grateful that I had time to serve with George. We worked together on a number of